



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

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News Release

CRIMINAL ALIEN SENTENCED TO 12 YEARS FOR REPEATEDLY RE-ENTERING THE U.S. AFTER DEPORTATIONS

AUSTIN, Texas— An illegal alien who repeatedly re-entered the United States after being deported was sentenced to 12 years in prison, announced Alonzo Pena, special agent-in-charge for the San Antonio office of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), and Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Texas.

U.S. District Judge Sam Sparks sentenced Francisco Quevado-Hernandez, 38, Tuesday for illegally re-entering the United States five times after his original formal deportation Aug 19, 1997. Re-entry after deportation is a felony offense punishable by up to 20 years in prison.

ICE agents placed a “detainer” on Quevado-Hernandez March 13 after learning that he was at the Travis County Jail. ICE special agents routinely coordinate with other law enforcement agencies and conduct checks of prison populations to locate criminal aliens. ICE apprehends and deports them before they’re returned to U.S. streets. A detainer is a notice to the detention facility to notify ICE before releasing the detainee.

According to ICE investigative records, Quevado-Hernandez has an extensive criminal record ranging from resisting arrest to aggravated assault on a peace officer with a deadly weapon. In the early 1990s, Houston Police arrested and charged Quevado-Hernandez with five separate crimes. He was convicted of each crime, and received sentences ranging from several months to a year.

“This 12-year prison sentence demonstrates that those who habitually violate our nation’s immigration laws will be vigorously prosecuted,” said Alonzo Pena, ICE’s special agent-in-charge for the San Antonio office. “ICE is committed to restoring integrity to our nation’s immigration system.” Pena heads the ICE Office of Investigations for South Texas.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Gerald Carruth prosecuted this case on behalf of the federal government.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.